

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, favorable reconsideration of the outstanding office action is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 - 38 remain in this application. Claims 20 and 22 have been amended. Claims 18, 19, 21, 23, and 24 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 25 - 31 have been withdrawn as a result of an earlier restriction requirement. In view of the examiner's earlier restriction requirement, Applicants retain the right to present claims 25 - 31 in a divisional application.

New Claims 39-47 have been added.

New Claims 43-47 are supported by the Application as filed, for example at page 18, paragraph 56, and Table II.

I. §102 Rejections

Claims 18-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 102(e) as being anticipated by Golowich et al. (US 6,574,403 B1).

As to Claim 18, the Patent Office asserts that Golowich et al. discloses that multimode optical fibers, which comprise a core and a cladding, include a peak wavelength at only one wavelength in which the fiber is optimized, and that Golowich et al. further discloses that for a conventional multimode optical fiber configured for optimal performance at 850 nm (the peak wavelength) and operating at approximately 1300 nm (the operating wavelength), the relative delay of higher order modes is inherently larger than the relative delay of lower modes (referring to column 5, lines 48-67). and therefore that Golowich et al. discloses an optical fiber, which is conventional in the art, the fiber including a core in a cladding, wherein the fiber is a multimode fiber at an operating wavelength (1300 nm) and has a peak bandwidth wavelength (850 nm) offset from the operating wavelength, wherein the offset is sufficient enough to cause the relative delay of the higher order modes to be inherently larger than the relative delay of lower modes, which inherently substantially reduces intermodal noise at the operating wavelength (1300 nm).

Regarding Claim 19, the Patent Office further asserts that at the operating wavelength (1300 nm) each mode has a group time delay and all of the group time delays are either all positive or negative, referring to Figure 2 of Golowich et al.

Regarding Claim 20, the Patent Office further asserts that at the operating wavelength (1300 nm) each mode has a group time delay and the absolute value of the sum of the group time delay difference is greater than zero, referring again to Figure 2 of Golowich et al.

Claims 18 and 19 are canceled without prejudice.

Claim 20 has been amended to depend from new independent Claim 39.

New Claim 39 requires that at the operating wavelength each mode has a group time delay and all of the group time delays are all negative with respect to the lowest order mode (LP₀₁ mode). Applicants submit that Figure 2 of Golowich et al. does not disclose or even suggest group time delays that are all negative with respect to the lowest order mode, or LP₀₁ mode, or PMN=1.

2. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that Claims 1-17 and 32-28 are allowed.

3. Claim Objections

Claims 21-24 were objected to and the Patent Office indicated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

New independent Claim 40 includes the features and/or limitations of originally filed Claims 18 and 21. The dependency of Claim 22 has been amended to now depend from Claim 40. New independent Claim 41 includes the features and/or limitations of originally filed Claims 18 and 23. New independent Claim 42 includes the features and/or limitations of originally filed Claims 18 and 24.

Applicants submit that the claims have been appropriately corrected and requests removal of the objection.

4. Conclusion

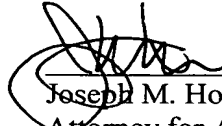
Based upon the above amendments, remarks, and papers of records, applicant believes the pending claims of the above-captioned application are in allowable form and patentable over the prior art of record. Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Applicants believe that no extension of time is necessary to make this Reply timely. Should Applicants be in error, Applicants respectfully request that the Office grant such time extension pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) as necessary to make this Reply timely, and hereby authorize the Office to charge any necessary fee or surcharge with respect to said time extension to the deposit account of the undersigned firm of attorneys, Deposit Account 03-3325.

Appl. No.: «Application_Number»
Amdt. Dated:
Reply to Office Action of:

Please direct any questions or comments to Joseph M. Homa at 607-974-9061.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Homa', is written over a horizontal line.

Joseph M. Homa
Attorney for Assignee
Reg. No. 40,023
Corning Incorporated
SP-TI-03-1
Corning, NY 14831
607-974-9061

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